Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service
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AG UPDATE - SPECIAL ISSUE

2002 ANNUAL CROP AND LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

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☞ ☞ SURVEY RESULTS

Special thanks to those who continue to supply the basic data needed to prepare reliable agricultural statistics for all data users.

This special issue of **AG UPDATE** is prepared primarily for those producers who requested survey results through their participation in one or more of the numerous agricultural surveys conducted by this office during the October 2002--January 2003 time period. If you are not already receiving AG UPDATE twice each month and would like to receive future issues, please notify this office by returning the address portion from this issue or by calling the toll free number in Lakewood at (800-392-3202). This report as well as other NASS and Colorado reports are also available on the Internet at: **http://www.usda.gov/nass**

FIELD CROPS

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The estimated value of production for Colorado's principal field crops (excluding sugar beets) totaled just over $1.17 billion in 2002, down 16 percent from the comparable value of $1.39 billion in 2001. The 2001 crop of sugar beets was valued at $28.2 million but no value has yet been determined for the 2002 crop. The value of production from the state's four leading crops (hay, corn, potatoes and wheat) totaled $1.10 billion for the 2002 crops and accounted for 93.8 percent of the total value from all crops (excluding sugar beets). A continuation of drought conditions during 2002 resulted in a smaller output than the previous year for each crop except corn silage and potatoes. The hot dry weather and water shortages in many areas resulted in increased abandonment of planted acres and, with few exceptions, reduced yield potential on acres that were harvested

Hay continued to be Colorado's leading crop in value of production. Although the value of all hay production dropped 24 percent from the previous year to $366.8 million, it still accounted for 31 percent of the total value from all crops produced excluding sugarbeets. Value of the 2002 alfalfa hay crop, at $257.9 million, was down 29 percent from the previous year. The combination of 170,000 fewer acres of alfalfa harvested in 2002, at 780,000 acres, and lower per acre yields averaging 2.90 tons per acre reduced production by 37 percent from the previous year. However, prices for the 2002 crop averaged $114 per ton compared with $101 per ton for the 2001 crop which partially offset the smaller crop produced.

The value of production for all other hay declined 6 percent to $108.9 million as substantially higher prices nearly offset a sharp decline in production. Most areas of the state experienced drought conditions which reduced the number of acres harvested and per acre yields. This resulted in a 37 percent drop in production to just 741 thousand tons, the lowest output of other hay since 1963. However, prices for the 2002 crop averaged $147 per ton compared with $99 per ton the previous year which significantly increased the total value of production.

Corn was the state's second leading crop produced in the state in terms of total value of production. The combined value of corn for grain and corn for silage was estimated at $369.2 million for the 2002 crop, down 2 percent from the comparable value of $377.3 million for the 2001 crop. The 2002 corn for grain crop was valued at $286.4 million, representing 24 percent of the total value from all crops excluding sugar beets. Producers harvested 720,000 acres of corn for grain in 2002, down 33 percent from the previous year to the lowest level since 1986. However, total production was down only 25 percent to 112.3 million bushels because the average yield of 156.0 bushels per acre was 16.0 bushels per acre above the 2001 crop average. Most of the decline in acreage was in dryland corn which helped push the overall corn average yield upward. The smaller production was partially offset by higher corn prices for the 2002 crop resulting in the 10 percent decline in the total value of the crop from a year earlier. Producers harvested 200,000 acres of **corn for silage** in 2002, up 74 percent from 115,000 acres a year earlier. However, production increased just 36 percent as producers averaged 18.0 tons per acre for the 2002 crop compared with 23.0 tons the previous year. Much of the increased silage acres came from dryland corn which was planted for grain but had no chance to make a grain crop due to the drought. A slightly higher average price received for corn silage resulted in a total value of production of $82.8 million, up 42 percent from the value of the 2001 crop.

Potatoes ranked third in terms of value of production with the 2002 crop value estimated at just under $216.2 million, down 2 percent from the record high $219.6 million received for the 2001 crop. Both the summer and fall crops produced in 2002 were larger than the previous year, but lower prices for fall

potatoes are expected to hold the total value below the previous year. The acreage of fall potatoes was up 5 percent from a year earlier to 71,500 acres and production increased 31 percent to 27.9 million cwt as yields averaged 390 cwt per acre, 75 cwt per acre above the mid-June freeze shortened yield of 315 cwt per acre for the 2001 crop. Movement of the 2002 crop has been good but prices are expected to average $7.10 per cwt this year compared with $9.65 per cwt a year earlier. Total value of production for the 2002 fall crop, at just below $198.0 million, is expected to be 4 percent smaller than the value of the 2001 crop. Summer potato harvested acreage, at 6,400 acres, increased 14 percent from the previous year. Per acre yields were unchanged from the 2001 average of 360 cwt per acre. In addition, summer potato prices improved from 2001, averaging $7.90 per cwt for the latest crop compared with $6.70 per cwt for the 2001 crop. The 2002 crop was valued at $18.2 million, up 35 percent from the previous year.

Wheat was kept to a fourth place ranking in value of production for 2002 with a total value of $148.9 million, down 21 percent from the previous year. The value of the winter wheat crop, at $139.8 million, was down 22 percent while the value of the spring wheat crop increased 9 percent to $9.1 million. The 2002 winter wheat crop of 36.3 million bushels was down 45 percent from the 2001 crop and was the smallest crop since 1967. The 1.65 million acres harvested in 2002 was 17 percent below the previous year and the smallest number of winter wheat acres harvested since 1965. Producers averaged 22.0 bushels per acre from the 2002 crop compared with 33.0 bushels in 2001 which further contributed to the smaller crop produced. The 2002 spring wheat crop totaled 2.4 million bushels, down 24 percent from the previous year as growers harvested 20,000 fewer acres than they did in 2001. With much of the reduced acreage coming from non-irrigated acres, the average yield for all harvested acres increased to 100.0 bushels per acre, up from the 72.0 bushel average for the 2001 crop. Overall wheat prices for the 2002 crop are expected to average $3.85 per bushel, up $1.13 per bushel from a year earlier.

The **dry edible bean** crop produced in 2002 was valued at $27.6 million, down 34 percent from the previous year. Dry edible bean producers harvested the lowest acreage of that crop since 1921, dropping 33 percent from the previous year to just 70,000 acres in 2002. However, an average yield of 21.70 cwt per acre was obtained for the 2002 crop which was 4.70 cwt higher than a year earlier and a new record high for the state. Because most of the planted dryland beans were not harvested, the overall average yield was pushed closer to the yield usually obtained from irrigated acres. Total production of 1.5 million cwt was down 15 percent from the 2001 crop. In addition, prices received for the latest crop are expected to average only $18.20 per cwt, down $5.40 per cwt from the average of $23.60 per cwt received for the previous year's crop.

The 2002 **barley** crop has an estimated value of $22.3 million, down 4 percent from the 2001 crop value of $23.4 million. Producers harvested 72,000 acres in 2002, down 8,000 acres (10 percent) from a year earlier and experienced a 7.0 bushel decline in the average yield from the previous year to 100.0 bushels per acre. A 16 percent decline in production to 7.2 million bushels was nearly offset by improved prices which averaged $3.10 per bushel for the latest crop compared with $2.73 for the 2001 crop.

Sugarbeet production totaled just 794,000 tons in 2002, down 4 percent from the 2001 crop of 824,000 tons to the smallest crop since 1995. The 39,500 acres harvested was up 7 percent from the previous year, but producers averaged only 20.1 tons per acre from the 2002 crop, down 2.3 tons per acre from the previous year, mostly the result of water shortages which not only reduced yield potential but also put some acres in jeopardy of being harvested at all. No value has yet been determined for the 2002 crop.

The 2002 crop of **sunflowers** was valued at just under $8.0 million, down 60 percent from the 2001 crop value of $19.7 million. Producers harvested 45 percent fewer acres of all sunflowers in 2002 than they did in 2001. Per acre yields also averaged more then 500 pounds per acre below the previous year, resulting in a 70 percent decline in production. Production of oil varieties declined 71 percent to 40.0 million pounds and production of non-oil varieties declined 68 percent to 23.0 million pounds. While prices for the 2002 crop averaged higher than the previous year, value of the oil crop is estimated at $4.9 million and the non-oil crop is placed at $3.1 million, down 54 percent and down 65 percent, respectively.

Proso millet production in 2002 had a estimated value of $7.03 million, down 56 percent from the value of the 2001 crop. Producers harvested 59 percent fewer acres in 2002 than they did the previous year, dropping from 230,000 acres in 2001 to just 95,000 acres in 2002. In addition, per acre yields averaged a meager 10.0 bushels per acre from the latest crop compared with 35.0 bushels per acre for the 2001 crop. Total production, at 950,000 bushels, was down 88 percent from the 8.1 million bushels produced a year earlier. However, prices for the 2002 crop averaged $7.40 per bushel, well above the $2.00 per bushel average received for the 2001 which only partially offset the drastic reduction in production.

The combined production of **grain and silage sorghum** had an estimated value of nearly $6.8 million for the 2002 crop, down 68 percent from the previous year. Sorghum for grain production in 2002 totaled 1.8 million bushels, down 81 percent from the 2001 crop to the lowest level since 1952. Producers harvested just 90,000 acres for grain in 2002, down 59 percent from 220,000 acres a year earlier and the lowest harvested area since 1935. In addition, the 2002 crop averaged 20.0 bushels per acre compared with 43.0 bushels in 2002. Total value of production of grain sorghum totaled $4.1 million, down 76 percent from the previous year. Sorghum silage production in 2002, at 135,000 tons, declined 44 percent from the previous year as producers harvested 25 percent more acres but realized lower per acre yields. Total value of the 2002 crop was estimated at $2.6 million, down 35 percent from the value of the 2001 crop.

The value of **oats** production in Colorado for the 2002 crop totaled $1.3 million, down 69 percent from $4.2 million for the 2001 crop. The harvested acreage declined from 32,000 acres in 2001 to 8,000 acres in 2002. Per acre yields averaged 58.0 bushels per acre for the 2002 crop compared with 60.0 bushels the previous year. Total production, at 464,000 bushels was 76 percent below the 1.9 million bushel crop produced in 2001. The harvested area and total production of oats were the smallest since records were begun for the crop in 1879.

HAY STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2002

Stocks of all hay on farms across the **United States** as of December 1, 2002 totaled 104 million tons, down 6 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from May 2002 - December 2002 totaled 69.7 million tons, compared to 25.1 million tons for the same period a year ago. Disappearance is up from last year, due to dry spring and summer conditions limiting pasture and extending the hay feeding period in the northern and central Great Plains, Southeast, and Rocky Mountain States.

Colorado farm and ranch operators had 1.56 million tons of hay on hand as of December 1, 2002, down 22 percent from the 1.99 million tons on hand one year earlier and the lowest December 1 stocks since the data series was changed from January 1 to December 1 in 1986. While May 1, 2002 stocks were 87 percent above the previous year, hay production during 2002 declined 37 percent. In addition, the demand for hay increased throughout the year as a result of the drought.

GRAIN STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2002

All Wheat stocks in **Colorado's** farm and commercial storage facilities as of December 1, 2002 totaled 39.2 million bushels, down 25 percent from 52.5 million bushels on hand a year earlier. Farm stocks declined 42 percent to 11.0 million bushels and off-farm stocks were down 16 percent to 28.2 million. All wheat stocks for the **United States** on December 1, 2002 totaled 1.32 billion bushels, down 19 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 385 million bushels, down 26 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 936 million bushels, are down 15 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2002 disappearance is 430 million bushels, down 19 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Colorado corn stocks were down 16 percent from the previous year to 81.5 million bushels. Farm stocks were down 18 percent to 53.0 million bushels and off-farm stocks declined 10 percent to 28.5 million bushels. The **U. S.** corn stocks totaled 7.63 billion bushels, down 8 percent from December 1, 2001. Of the total stocks, 4.80 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 9 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.83 billion bushels, are down 5 percent from the previous year. The September - November 2002 disappearance is 2.97 billion bushels, compared with 3.14 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions in the **United States** on December 1, 2002 totaled 2.11 billion bushels, down 7 percent from December 1, 2001. On-farm stocks totaled 1.17 billion bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 944 million bushels, are down 9 percent from a year ago. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2002 totaled 823 million bushels, down 5 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in the **U.S.** on December 1, 2002 totaled 170 million bushels, down 13 percent from December 1, 2001. On-farm stocks, at 83.4 million bushels, were 10 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks were down 16 percent to 86.6 million bushels. Indicated disappearance during the September - November 2002 quarter totaled 54.0 million bushels, up 7 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions in the **U.S.** on December 1, 2002 totaled 230 million bushels, down 27 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 51.6 million bushels, are down 29 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 178 million bushels, are down 26 percent from December 1, 2001. The September - November 2002 indicated disappearance from all positions is 201 million bushels, down 17 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions in the **U.S.** on December 1, 2002 totaled 104 million bushels, 9 percent below the stocks on December 1, 2001. Of the total stocks on hand, 52.3 million bushels are stored on farms, 10 percent less than a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 51.3 million bushels, 9 percent below a year earlier. Disappearance during September - November 2002 totaled 8.12 million bushels, up 5.94 million from the same period a year ago.

Colorado's on farm storage capacity was rated at 180 million bushels as of December 1, 2002, unchanged from one year earlier. The **off-farm storage capacity** declined 6 percent from December 1, 2001 to 113.5 million bushels. On farm capacity for the **United States** increased slightly from a year ago to 11.2 billion bushels while off-farm storage capacity was up 1 percent to 8.51 billion bushels as of December 1, 2002.

Grain Stocks
Colorado and United States, December 1, 2001-2002

Grain and Position 1/	Colorado		United States	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Bushels			
All wheat				
On farms . . .	19,000	11,000	517,890	384,800
Off farms . . .	33,520	28,200	1,105,565	936,199
Total	52,520	39,200	1,623,455	1,320,999
Corn				
On farms . . .	65,000	53,000	5,275,000	4,800,000
Off farms . . .	31,800	28,480	2,989,715	2,833,427
Total	96,800	81,480	8,264,715	7,633,427
Barley				
On farms . . .	2/	2/	92,400	83,400
Off farms . . .	7,955	6,875	102,587	86,601
Total	2/	2/	194,987	170,001
Oats				
On farms . . .	2/	2/	58,100	52,300
Off farms . . .	77	86	56,117	51,294
Total	2/	2/	114,217	103,594
Sorghum				
On farms . . .	2/	2/	72,400	51,600
Off farms . . .	3,880	1,175	241,477	178,000
Total	2/	2/	313,877	229,600
Soybeans				
On farms . . .	3/	3/	1,240,000	1,170,000
Off farms . . .	2/	2/	1,035,618	944,482
Total	2/	2/	2,275,618	2,114,482

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.
2/ Not published separately.
3/ Not estimated.

CROPS: Acreage, production and value, Colorado and United States, 2001

Area and Crop	Planted Acreage	Harvested Acreage	Unit	Yield Per Acre	Production	Price Per Unit	Value of Production
	1,000 acres			Units	1,000 Units	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Colorado:							
Corn for grain 1/	1,220	1,070	Bu.	140.0	149,800	2.13	319,074
Corn for silage	...	115	Tons	23.0	2,645	22.00	58,190
Sorghum for grain 1/	310	220	Bu.	43.0	9,460	1.83	17,323
Sorghum for silage	...	12	Tons	20.0	240	17.00	4,080
All Wheat	2,397	2,044	Bu.	33.8	69,168	2.72	187,852
Winter Wheat	2,350	2,000	Bu.	33.0	66,000	2.72	179,520
Spring Wheat	47	44	Bu.	72.0	3,168	2.63	8,332
Oats	80	32	Bu.	60.0	1,920	2.20	4,224
Barley	90	80	Bu.	107.0	8,560	2.73	23,369
Proso Millet	240	230	Bu.	35.0	8,050	2.00	16,100
All Hay	...	1,600	Tons	2.99	4,780	101.00	480,440
Alfalfa Hay	...	950	Tons	3.80	3,610	101.00	364,610
Other Hay	...	650	Tons	1.80	1,170	99.00	115,830
Sugar beets	41.5	36.8	Tons	22.4	824	34.20	28,181
Dry edible beans	115.0	105.0	Cwt	17.00	1,785	23.60	42,126
All Sunflowers	195	182	Lbs.	1,143	208,100	4/ 9.50	19,708
Sunflowers, Oil	130	120	Lbs.	1,140	136,800	4/ 8.10	11,081
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	65	62	Lbs.	1,150	71,300	4/ 12.10	8,627
All potatoes	73.9	73.4	Cwt	318	23,373	9.35	219,602
Summer potatoes	5.8	5.6	Cwt	360	2,016	6.70	13,507
Fall potatoes	68.1	67.8	Cwt	315	21,357	9.65	206,095
United States:							
Corn for grain 1/	75,752	68,808	Bu.	138.2	9,506,840	1.97	18,888,389
Corn for silage	...	6,148	Tons	16.6	102,077	5/	5/
Sorghum for grain 1/	10,252	8,584	Bu.	59.9	514,524	1.94	979,794
Sorghum for silage	...	336	Tons	11.1	3,728	5/	5/
All wheat 2/	59,597	48,633	Bu.	40.2	1,957,043	2.78	5,440,217
Winter Wheat	41,078	31,295	Bu.	43.5	1,361,479	2.72	3,684,817
Spring Wheat	15,609	14,549	Bu.	35.2	512,008	2.90	1,486,009
Oats	4,403	1,905	Bu.	61.4	117,024	1.59	195,711
Barley	4,967	4,289	Bu.	58.2	249,420	2.22	536,582
Rye	1,328	255	Bu.	27.3	6,971	2.93	20,422
Proso Millet	650	585	Bu.	33.2	19,405	2.02	39,109
All Hay	...	63,521	Tons	2.47	156,764	96.50	12,602,534
Alfalfa Hay	...	23,822	Tons	3.37	80,327	104.00	7,524,869
Other Hay	...	36,699	Tons	1.93	76,437	73.30	5,077,665
Sugar beets	1,370.5	1,243.4	Tons	20.7	25,764	39.80	1,025,306
Dry edible beans	1,435.9	1,248.5	Cwt	15.69	19,583	22.10	426,475
All Sunflowers	2,633	2,555	Lbs.	1,338	3,418,759	4/ 9.62	325,950
Sunflowers, Oil	2,117	2,060	Lbs.	1,361	2,803,704	4/ 9.07	254,705
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	516	495	Lbs.	1,243	615,055	4/ 11.60	71,245
All potatoes 3/	1,247.7	1,222.0	Cwt	358	437,888	6.99	3,057,573
Summer potatoes	61.1	58.8	Cwt	310	18,209	5/	5/
Fall potatoes	1,091.5	1,073.2	Cwt	367	393,750	5/	5/
Soybeans	74,075	72,975	Bu.	39.6	2,890,682	4.38	12,605,717

1/ Planted all purposes. 2/ Includes Durum.

3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Dollars per hundredweight. 5/ Not available.

CROPS: Acreage, production and value, Colorado and United States, 2002

Area and Crop	Planted Acreage	Harvested Acreage	Unit	Yield Per Acre	Production	Price Per Unit	Value of Production
	1,000 acres			**Units**	**1,000 Units**	**Dollars**	**1,000 Dollars**
Colorado:							
Corn for grain 1/	1,200	720	Bu.	156.0	112,320	2.55	286,416
Corn for silage	...	200	Tons	18.0	3,600	23.00	82,800
Sorghum for grain 1/	350	90	Bu.	20.0	1,800	2.30	4,133
Sorghum for silage	...	15	Tons	9.0	135	19.50	2,633
All Wheat	2,375	1,674	Bu.	23.1	38,700	3.85	148,875
Winter Wheat	2,350	1,650	Bu.	22.0	36,300	3.85	139,755
Spring Wheat	25	24	Bu.	100.0	2,400	3.80	9,120
Oats	65	8	Bu.	58.0	464	2.85	1,322
Barley	85	72	Bu.	100.0	7,200	3.10	22,320
Proso Millet	220	95	Bu.	10.0	950	7.40	7,030
All Hay	...	1,350	Tons	2.22	3,003	117.00	366,795
Alfalfa Hay	...	780	Tons	2.90	2,262	114.00	257,868
Other Hay	...	570	Tons	1.30	741	147.00	108,927
Sugar beets	43.9	39.5	Tons	20.1	794	4/	4/
Dry edible beans	92.0	70.0	Cwt	21.70	1,519	18.20	27,646
All Sunflowers	130	100	Lbs.	630	63,000	5/ 12.70	7,979
Sunflowers, Oil	95	80	Lbs.	500	40,000	5/ 12.30	4,920
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	35	20	Lbs.	1,150	23,000	5/ 13.30	3,059
All potatoes	78.1	77.9	Cwt	388	30,189	7.15	216,186
Summer potatoes	6.5	6.4	Cwt	360	2,304	7.90	18,202
Fall potatoes	71.6	71.5	Cwt	390	27,885	7.10	197,984
United States:							
Corn for grain 1/	79,054	69,313	Bu.	130.0	9,007,659	2.35	21,213,159
Corn for silage	...	7,490	Tons	14.0	104,979	4/	4/
Sorghum for grain 1/	9,580	7,299	Bu.	50.7	369,758	2.41	883,690
Sorghum for silage	...	352	Tons	9.5	3,360	4/	4/
All wheat 2/	60,358	45,817	Bu.	35.3	1,616,441	3.60	5,863,378
Winter Wheat	41,735	29,651	Bu.	38.5	1,142,802	3.45	3,939,217
Spring Wheat	15,714	13,463	Bu.	29.3	394,189	3.90	1,592,978
Oats	5,005	2,098	Bu.	56.8	119,132	1.75	211,849
Barley	5,073	4,135	Bu.	54.9	226,873	2.70	596,759
Rye	1,395	286	Bu.	24.4	6,985	3.40	23,717
Proso Millet	450	220	Cwt.	12.5	2,755	7.36	20,266
All Hay	...	64,497	Tons	2.34	150,962	94.00	12,432,729
Alfalfa Hay	...	23,135	Tons	3.19	73,824	102.00	7,172,182
Other Hay	...	41,362	Tons	1.86	77,138	74.20	5,260,547
Sugar beets	1,427.9	1,361.0	Tons	20.2	27,550	4/	4/
Dry edible beans	1,922.1	1,726.9	Cwt	17.36	29,974	17.00	519,609
All Sunflowers	2,585	2,205	Lbs.	1,133	2,497,236	5/ 12.70	317,244
Sunflowers, Oil	2,125	1,837	Lbs.	1,128	2,072,410	5/ 12.40	259,365
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	460	368	Lbs.	1,154	424,826	5/ 13.70	57,879
All potatoes 3/	1,310.8	1,276.5	Cwt	363	463,214	6.82	3,151,178
Summer potatoes	63.0	59.9	Cwt	309	18,486	4/	4/
Fall potatoes	1,144.2	1,114.8	Cwt	374	417,228	4/	4/
Soybeans	73,758	72,160	Bu.	37.8	2,729,709	5.40	14,755,470

1/ Planted all purposes. 2/ Includes Durum. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops.

4/ Not available. 5/ Dollars per hundredweight.

WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS
2003 CROP

Colorado producers seeded 2.6 million acres of winter wheat during the fall of 2002 for harvest in 2003, up 11 percent from the 2.35 million acres seeded for the 2002 crop. Planting began on schedule in some areas as producers took advantage of late summer moisture but planting was delayed in other areas due to dry topsoils. Germination and emergence was good in some areas but marginal in others, putting most of the crop in only fair to good condition for entering the winter. Mostly dry conditions have prevailed during November and December. In addition, temperatures have been warmer than usual which has resulted in additional loss of soil moisture. As usual, prospects for the 2003 crop will be heavily dependent on winter and spring weather.

United States winter wheat seedings for the 2003 crop are expected to total 44.2 million acres, up 6 percent from 2002 to the largest area since 1998. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 32.1 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.2 million; and White Winter, 3.9 million.

Winter Wheat
Area Seeded, 2001-2003 Crops 1/

State	Crop of			
	2001	2002	2003	03/02
	1,000 Acres			**%**
Alabama	170	150	150	100
Arizona	6	10	7	70
Arkansas	1,100	960	760	79
California	530	530	580	109
Colorado	**2,350**	**2,350**	**2,600**	**111**
Delaware	60	60	55	92
Florida	10	9	20	222
Georgia	300	350	380	109
Idaho	760	730	760	104
Illinois	750	680	800	118
Indiana	400	350	450	129
Iowa	25	20	20	100
Kansas	9,800	9,600	10,300	107
Kentucky	550	550	500	91
Louisiana	175	230	200	87
Maryland	190	195	150	77
Michigan	570	500	680	136
Minnesota	15	35	25	71
Mississippi	250	250	150	60
Missouri	900	900	880	98
Montana	1,300	1,450	1,750	121
Nebraska	1,750	1,650	1,700	103
Nevada	9	6	6	100
New Jersey	31	38	31	82
New Mexico	500	520	480	92
New York	125	130	125	96
North Carolina	680	650	550	85
North Dakota	150	80	130	163
Ohio	950	860	1,000	116
Oklahoma	5,600	6,000	6,500	108
Oregon	750	800	950	119
Pennsylvania	170	190	175	92
South Carolina	220	210	210	100
South Dakota	1,300	1,300	1,500	115
Tennessee	500	470	460	98
Texas	5,600	6,400	6,600	103
Utah	140	140	155	111
Virginia	200	230	210	91
Washington	1,850	1,800	1,850	103
West Virginia	12	12	12	100
Wisconsin	170	190	205	108
Wyoming	160	150	180	120
United States	**41,078**	**41,735**	**44,246**	**106**

1/ Total area seeded for all purposes.

WINTER WHEAT VARIETIES
2003 CROP

Akron continued to be the most popular variety seeded in Colorado and was planted on 22.3 percent of the acreage seeded for the 2003 crop compared with 25.3 percent of the acreage a year earlier. **Prairie Red** remained the second most popular variety and was planted on 16.0 percent of the acreage for the 2003 crop, up from 13.9 percent for the 2002 crop. **Tam 107** kept a third place ranking by accounting for 13.0 percent of the acreage seeded for the 2003 crop compared with 13.6 percent of the 2002 crop acreage. **Jagger** maintained its fourth place ranking for the 2003 crop by accounting for 7.7 percent of the acres seeded compared with 6.7 percent of the acres a year earlier. **Above**, a new variety available to producers for the 2003 crop, moved quickly into the list of the top five varieties by being planted on 3.8 percent of the acreage. Above is a Clearfield wheat which, when used with an herbicide labeled for use in Clearfield wheat, provides selective control of winter annual grasses such as downy brome, jointed goatgrass and feral rye. The top five varieties accounted for 62.8 percent of the acreage seeded for the 2003 crop. The top five varieties seeded for the 2002 crop accounted for 64.3 percent of the total acreage.

Yumar moved down into a sixth place ranking for the 2003 crop, accounting for 3.6 percent of the total compared with 4.8 percent and a fifth place ranking for the 2002 crop. **Trego**, the first hard white wheat to achieve a significant ranking of varieties in Colorado, was tied with **Lamar** for seventh place. Each of these two varieties were planted on 3.3 percent of the acreage for the 2003 crop. A year earlier, Trego was tied with Prowers 99 in tenth place with each accounting for 2.4 percent of the acreage. **Prowers 99**, with 2.6 percent of the acreage, and **Halt**, with 2.4 percent, complete the list of the top ten varieties. The top ten varieties represented 78.0 percent of the state's total acreage seeded for the 2003 crop. In 2002, the top ten varieties accounted for 81.5 percent of the total seeded acreage.

Winter Wheat: Percent planted By Variety,
Colorado, 1998-2003 1/

Variety	1998 Crop	1999 Crop	2000 Crop	2001 Crop	2002 Crop	2003 Crop
	Percent					
Akron	11.9	19.1	24.3	24.4	25.3	22.3
Prairie Red	...	...	3.1	11.5	13.9	16.0
Tam 107	43.3	39.7	33.6	24.9	13.6	13.0
Jagger	...	1.2	2.1	2.9	6.7	7.7
Above	...	...	...	...	...	3.8
Yumar	...	1.0	3.0	4.6	4.8	3.6
Lamar	9.4	7.5	5.1	4.4	3.6	3.3
Tregor	...	...	...	0.3	2.4	3.3
Prowers 99	...	...	...	1.1	2.4	2.6
Halt	3.7	3.9	6.6	5.1	2.6	2.4
Tam 110	...	0.6	0.8	1.2	2.3	2.3
Alliance	0.7	0.5	1.2	1.0	2.3	1.8
Platte	...	...	0.5	0.4	0.8	1.5
Prowers	...	0.7	2.3	2.9	3.5	1.3
Yuma	5.5	7.3	3.9	3.2	2.1	1.3
Other 2/	25.5	18.5	13.5	12.1	13.7	13.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Dashes indicate either none or minor amount reported.
2/ Includes minor and older varieties that have become less popular.

FRUIT CROPS

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Utilized production of the state's four fruit crops had a combined value of nearly $15.7 million for 2002, up 2 percent from $15.4 million a year earlier. Total production, at 45.1 million pounds, was slightly below the previous year as increased production of peaches and pears offset smaller apple and tart cherry crops. Producers received higher prices per unit for each crop produced in 2002 than they received for their crops in 2001 except apples.

Peach production, at 19.0 million pounds, was up 6 percent from the previous year and the value of production increased 11 percent to $10.49 million as producers received an average price of 56.7 cents per pound for the latest crop compared with 54.0 cents in 2001. Apple production totaled 21.0 million pounds in 2002, down 9 percent from the 2001 crop. The apple crop was valued at $3.69 million, down 23 percent from the 2001 crop.

The 2002 pear crop totaled 2,400 tons, up 26 percent from 1,900 tons produced in 2001. Producers received $576 per ton for their 2002 crop compared with $500 per ton in 2001, increasing the total value of the crop 46 percent from the previous year to $1.38 million. Tart cherry production in 2002 totaled 300,000 pounds, down 50 percent from a year earlier. The 2002 crop was valued at $120,000, down just 40 percent as producers received an average of 40.0 cents per pound in 2002 compared with 33.3 cents per pound for the 2001 crop.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

In 2002, the Nation's utilized production of the leading noncitrus fruit crops totaled 16.8 million tons, up 2 percent for comparable crops from the 2001 utilized production. Utilized production increased from 2001 for apricots, blackberries, California raspberries, cranberries, figs, grapes, nectarines, peaches, California prunes, and strawberries.

Value of utilized production for noncitrus fruit crops totaled 8.28 billion dollars, up 5 percent from 2001. The value of apples, strawberries, and peaches increased 12 percent, 14 percent, and 3 percent, respectively, from the previous year. However, the value of grapes decreased 1 percent.

Utilized apple production for 2002 is estimated at 8.47 billion pounds, down 8 percent from the 2001 level. Utilized grape production for 2002 totaled 7.14 million tons, up 9 percent from the 2001 crop. The California crop, which accounts for 91 percent of the 2002 U.S. utilized grape production, is up 9 percent from the previous year.

Utilized peach production in 2002 is estimated at 2.47 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year but 1 percent below 2000. The California crop, accounting for 76 percent of the U.S. utilized peach production, is up 12 percent from 2001. Utilized pear production for 2002, at 911,000 tons, is down 6 percent from the previous year. The value of grapes, apples and strawberries represented 69 percent of the total value of the non-citrus fruit production in the United States in 2002.

FRUIT CROPS: Production, price, and value, Colorado and United States, 2001-2002

Area and Crop		Bearing Acreage	Yield Per Acre	Unit	Total Production	Utilized Production	Price Per Unit	Value of Production
		Acres	**Units**		**Million Units**		**Dollars**	**1,000 Dollars**
Colorado:								
Apples	2001	2,200	10,500	Pounds	23.0	23.0	0.208	4,784
	2002	1,800	11,700	Pounds	21.0	20.0	0.184	3,686
Peaches	2001	1,900	9,470	Pounds	18.0	17.5	0.540	9,450
	2002	1,900	10,000	Pounds	19.0	18.5	0.567	10,490
Pears	2001	1/	1/	Tons	* 1.90	* 1.90	500.00	950
	2002	1/	1/	Tons	* 2.40	* 2.40	576.00	1,383
Tart Cherries	2001	1/	1/	Pounds	0.6	0.6	0.333	200
	2002	1/	1/	Pounds	0.3	0.3	0.400	120
United States:								
Apples	2001	416,550	22,600	Pounds	9,428.7	9,214.4	0.157	1,448,348
	2002	404,950	21,200	Pounds	8,592.1	8,474.2	0.191	1,622,135
Peaches	2001	151,650	16,000	Pounds	2,433.3	2,334.9	0.211	493,298
	2002	153,420	16,800	Pounds	2,575.4	2,472.5	0.205	507,089
Pears	2001	64,030	15.60	Tons	* 1,001.78	* 964.28	282.00	271,788
	2002	63,515	14.40	Tons	* 911.45	* 911.00	326.00	297,410
Tart Cherries	2001	38,540	9,600	Pounds	370.1	307.9	0.186	57,150
	2002	36,900	1,690	Pounds	62.5	62.2	0.448	27,879

1/ Not Estimated. * Thousand Units.

VEGETABLE CROPS

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The preliminary value of production during 2002 for the seven major vegetable crops estimated in Colorado was placed at $108.9 million, up 10 percent from $98.3 million in 2001. Onions, the state's leading vegetable crop, had a value of $50.69 million for the 2002 crop, up 17 percent from 2001. The total value of the 2002 onion crop accounted for 47 percent of the state's total value from all vegetable crops. The 2002 carrot crop was valued at $14.3 million (down 32 percent), and ranked second in value; cabbage ranked third with $10.9 million (up 26 percent); sweet corn was fourth with $10.4 million (up 22 percent); lettuce ranked fifth with $9.9 million (up 18 percent): canteloupe ranked sixth with $6.6 million (up 10 percent); and spinach ranked seventh with $5.9 million, more than double the value of the previous year's crop. Production and value data are not prepared for numerous other vegetable crops produced in Colorado.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Fresh market vegetable and melon production for the 24 selected crops estimated in 2002 totaled 457 million hundredweight. Harvested area covered 1.93 million acres. Value of the 2002 crop was estimated at 9.28 billion dollars. The three largest crops in terms of production were head lettuce, onions, and watermelon, which combined to account for 38 percent of the total production. Head lettuce, tomatoes, and onions claimed the highest value, accounting for 36 percent of the total value when combined.

For the 24 selected fresh market vegetable and melon crops estimated in 2002, California continued to be the leading state, accounting for 42 percent of the harvested area, 48 percent of production, and 47 percent of the value.

Processing production of 8 selected vegetables estimated in 2002 totaled 17.1 million tons. Area harvested is estimated at 1.35 million acres. The processing crop value is estimated at 1.35 billion dollars. The three largest crops in terms of production are tomatoes, sweet corn, and snap beans, which combine to account for 91 percent of the total. The three most valuable processed vegetables are tomatoes, sweet corn, and cucumbers, accounting for 79 percent of the total value when combined.

For the 8 selected processing vegetable crops estimated in 2002, California leads the nation with 24 percent of the harvested acreage, 66 percent of the production, and 50 percent of the value.

Vegetable Crops: Acreage, Production and Value, Colorado and United States, 2001-2002 1/

Area and Crop		Planted Acreage	Harvested Acreage	Unit	Yield Per Acre	Production	Price Per Unit	Value of Production
		Acres			**Units**	**1,000 Units**	**Dollars**	**1,000 Dollars**
Colorado:								
Cabbage	2001	2,400	2,200	Cwt	450	990	8.70	8,613
	2002	2,800	2,600	Cwt	440	1,144	9.50	10,868
Cantaloupes	2001	1,800	1,700	Cwt	230	391	15.30	5,982
	2002	1,700	1,600	Cwt	250	400	16.40	6,560
Carrots	2001	3,700	3,200	Cwt	660	2,112	10.00	21,120
	2002	3,300	2,800	Cwt	500	1,400	10.20	14,280
Lettuce	2001	2,100	2,000	Cwt	350	700	12.00	8,400
	2002	2,800	2,700	Cwt	300	810	12.20	9,882
Onions	2001	14,000	12,000	Cwt	345	4,140	12.40	43,152
	2002	12,500	11,000	Cwt	400	4,400	14.40	50,688
Spinach	2001	1,600	1,200	Cwt	70	84	30.00	2,520
	2002	1,900	1,800	Cwt	120	216	27.20	5,875
Sweet corn	2001	8,300	7,900	Cwt	140	1,106	7.70	8,516
	2002	8,800	8,500	Cwt	120	1,020	10.20	10,404
United States:								
Cabbage	2001	82,390	79,240	Cwt	329	26,069	13.30	340,241
	2002	81,030	77,080	Cwt	317	24,415	12.60	301,482
Cantaloupes	2001	99,430	96,130	Cwt	236	22,718	19.00	431,381
	2002	96,300	93,900	Cwt	245	23,046	17.60	404,685
Carrots	2001	103,160	101,760	Cwt	309	31,464	17.20	541,859
	2002	98,500	97,400	Cwt	298	29,027	19.00	551,433
Lettuce	2001	184,800	184,300	Cwt	382	70,350	17.90	1,258,418
	2002	185,100	184,400	Cwt	367	67,726	21.50	1,456,472
Onions	2001	169,500	161,590	Cwt	419	67,653	11.40	697,950
	2002	169,150	160,220	Cwt	420	67,365	11.70	715,979
Spinach	2001	29,910	28,650	Cwt	129	3,709	32.50	120,371
	2002	31,600	30,900	Cwt	156	4,810	34.50	165,764
Sweet corn	2001	271,800	251,600	Cwt	109	27,383	19.50	534,586
	2002	270,400	248,800	Cwt	106	26,430	20.10	531,159

1/ All crops are for fresh market except the US totals for onions include some processing onions in CA.

LIVESTOCK

ALL CATTLE AND CALVES
JANUARY 1, 2003

COLORADO

Colorado's farm and ranch operators had 2.65 million head of all cattle and calves on hand as of January 1, 2003, down 13 percent from the 3.05 million head on hand one year earlier. The latest inventory was down 400,000 head from a year earlier to the lowest all cattle inventory since 1987. The total number of all cows and heifers that have calved, at 800,000 head, declined 10 percent from 890,000 head a year earlier. The number of beef cows declined 12 percent from the previous year to 702,000 head, the lowest level since 1957. The extreme drought in the state during 2002 caused considerable movement of cattle off farms and ranches with many of them going to other states that had better forage conditions. The number of milk cows increased 5 percent to 98,000 head.

There were 790,000 heifers weighing 500 pounds and over on hand at the beginning of this year, down 13 percent from a year earlier. Of that total, 102,000 were being kept for beef cow replacement (down 15 percent), and 38,000 were for milk cow replacement (down 5 percent). The remaining 650,000 were other heifers (down 13 percent) of which 425,000 were on feed for the slaughter market.

The January 1, 2003 inventory also included 870,000 head of steers weighing 500 pounds or more (down 14 percent) and 585,000 of those were on feed for the slaughter market. The number of bulls weighing 500 pounds or more declined 11 percent from a year earlier to 40,000 head.

The number of calves (steers, heifers, and bulls under 500 pounds) on hand January 1, 2003, at 150,000 head, was down 23 percent from the 195,000 on hand the previous year. The 2001 calf crop in Colorado, at 820,000 head, was down 2 percent from the 2001 calf crop. Many calves were born in Colorado but moved out of state with the mother cows during the summer.

Colorado feeders had 1,040,000 head of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market as of January 1, 2003, down 14 percent from the previous year. The on feed total at the beginning of this year represented 39.2 percent of the total inventory compared with 39.7 percent one year earlier.

More than 98 percent of the total number on feed (1,040,000 head) were in 158 feedlots that have a capacity of 1,000 head or more. In addition, there 20,000 head of cattle and calves on feed on 117 operations having a feedlot with a capacity of less than 1,000 head. Total marketings of fed cattle from all feedlots in the state for 2002 totaled 2,515,000 head, down 1 percent from the previous year and 8 percent below the record high of 2,725,000 head marketed during 2000.

The number of operations with cattle at any time during 2002 was down 2 percent from the previous year to 14,300. The number of beef cow operations was down 5 percent to 10,500 and the number of milk cow operations in 2001 declined 1 percent to 780, down 20 operations from the previous year.

UNITED STATES

The January 1, 2003 inventory of all cattle and calves for the United States totaled 96.1 million head, 1 percent below the 96.7 million on hand the previous year and 1 percent below the January 1, 2001 total of 97.3 million.

The total number of all cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.1 million, was down slightly from the 42.2 million one year earlier and down 1 percent from the 42.6 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 32.95 million, declined 1 percent from both January 1, 2002 and two years ago. The number of milk cows, at 9.15 million were up slightly from January 1, 2002 but down slightly from two years ago.

The inventory of all heifers weighing 500 pounds and over was down slightly to 19.6 million. Of that total, 5.61 million were being kept for beef cow replacement (up 1 percent), 4.10 million were intended for milk cow replacement (up 1 percent), and 9.89 million were other heifers (down 2 percent). The inventory of steers weighing 500 pounds and over, at 16.6 million, was down 1 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over were up slightly to 2.25 million, and the number of calves under 500 pounds declined 1 percent to 15.6 million.

The 2002 calf crop was estimated at 38.2 million head, down slightly from 2001 and down 1 percent from 2000. There were 27.9 million calves born during the first half of the year, down 1 percent from the previous two years and down 2 percent from 2000.

The January 1, 2003 number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all states was estimated at 12.9 million, down 7 percent from a year earlier. The U.S. cattle on feed inventory in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head declined 8 percent from a year earlier to 10.59 million and represented 82 percent of the total U.S. cattle on feed inventory.

The number of operations with cattle totaled 1.03 million for 2002, down 2 percent from 2001 and 4 percent below 2000. The number of operations with beef cows was down 1 percent, dropping from 814 thousand in 2001 to 805

thousand in 2002. The number of operations with milk cows dropped 6 percent to 91,990 in 2002 compared with 97,510 in 2001.

SHEEP AND LAMBS
JANUARY 1, 2003

COLORADO

The January 1, 2003 inventory of all sheep and lambs in Colorado totaled 370,000 head, unchanged from the number on hand as of January 1, 2002. The number of breeding sheep and lambs was down 10 percent to 185,000 head while the number of market sheep and lambs increased 12 percent to 185,000. There was a 17 percent decline in the number of replacement lambs to 24,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older declined 9 percent to 155,000 head, while the number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged from last year at 6,000. Of the 185,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 1,000 head were market sheep and 184,000 head were market lambs. There were 2,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, the same number as a year earlier; 5,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, also the same as the previous year; 30,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 17,000 last year; and 147,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with the 140,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2002.

The 2002 lamb crop, at 200,000 head, was up 5 percent from the 2001 lamb crop of 190,000. The number of operations with sheep in Colorado for 2002 was down 100 from the previous year to 1,900.

Wool production in Colorado during 2002 totaled 3.07 million pounds, down slightly from 3.08 million pounds produced in 2001. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 460,000 head, was up 7 percent from 430,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2002 totaled $1.75 million, up 72 percent from a year earlier as producers received 57 cents per pound of wool sold compared with 33 cents per pound the previous year.

UNITED STATES

The all sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2003, totaled 6.35 million head, down 5 percent from 2002 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

The breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.68 million head on January 1, 2003, down 5 percent from 4.91 million head on January 1, 2002. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.79 million head, were 5 percent below last year.

The number of market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2003, totaled 1.67 million head, down 6 percent from January 1, 2002. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2002 lamb crop of 4.36 million head was down 3 percent from 2001 and established a new record low. The 2002 lambing rate was 110 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2002, unchanged from 2001.

The number of operations with sheep during 2002 totaled 64,170, down 1 percent from 2001 and 3 percent from 2000.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2002 was 41.2 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2001. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.45 million head, down 4 percent from 2001. The average price paid for wool sold in 2002 was $0.53 per pound for a total value of $21.8 million dollars, up 42 percent from $15.3 million dollars in 2001.

HOGS AND PIGS
DECEMBER 1, 2002

COLORADO

Colorado's inventory of all hogs and pigs as of December 1, 2002 totaled 790,000 head, down 1 percent from a year earlier. This is the third December to December decline following fourteen consecutive years in which inventory numbers were unchanged or higher than the previous year.

The latest inventory consisted of 160,000 breeding hogs and pigs, down 9 percent from the 175,000 on hand one year earlier. The number of market hogs and pigs, at 630,000, increased 1 percent from the previous year.

The 2002 pig crop in Colorado totaled 2.57 million head, down 4 percent from the previous year. There were 304,000 sows farrowed during the year, down 4 percent from last year. The average litter size of 8.4 pigs in 2002 was virtually the same as a year earlier.

There were just 390 operations with hogs in Colorado during 2002, down from 400 the previous year. The major portion of the Colorado hogs and pigs are under the control of a small number of large operations, following the trend in the United States.

UNITED STATES

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002, was 58.9 million head. This was 1 percent below December 2001 and 2 percent below September 1, 2002. The breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from December 1, 2001 and 1 percent below last

quarter. The market hog inventory, at 52.9 million head, was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below the last quarter.

The total December 2001 - November 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 100.8 million head, was slightly above both the same period a year earlier and two years ago. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 11.4 million head, also slightly above the previous two years. The average litter rate was 8.82 pigs saved per litter for the year compared with 8.83 the previous year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2002 but 2 percent above 2001. Intended farrowings for March-May 2003, at 2.85 million sows, are 3 percent below the same period in 2002, and 1 percent below 2001.

The number of hog operations with hogs totaled 75,350 during 2002, down 7 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2000. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 10 percent of the operations and 75 percent of the inventory. This is the first time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled 75 percent or more of the total inventory. The number of operations with over 5,000 head of inventory, at 2,258, accounted for 53 percent of the total inventory, up from 52 percent a year ago.

ALL CHICKENS
DECEMBER 1, 2002

COLORADO

The all chicken inventory in Colorado as of December 1, 2002 totaled 4.78 million birds, up 13 percent from the 4.21 million on hand one year earlier. The number of layers increased 16 percent from the previous year to 4.14 million. Of that total, 1.85 million were one year old and older (up 19 percent) and 2.29 million were less than one year of age (up 14 percent).

The total inventory also included 568,000 pullets (down 5 percent from 598,000 as of December 1, 2001) that were less than 20 weeks of age. Of that total, there were 412,000 pullets less than 13 weeks of age (down 10 percent) and 156,000 pullets between 13 and 20 weeks of age (up 10 percent). The remaining inventory of 72,000 other chickens represented an increase of 31 percent from the previous year.

During the period December 1, 2001 through November 30, 2002, Colorado laying flocks produced 1.0 billion eggs. This was up 7 percent from the 946 million eggs produced during the comparable period a year earlier. The number of layers averaged 3.74 million for the year, up 5 percent from 3.57 million layers during the same period a year earlier. The annual average laying rate for the latest year was 270 eggs per layer compared with 265 eggs per layer one year earlier.

The December 1, 2002 inventory value of all chickens was estimated at just over $9.8 million, up 23 percent from $8.0 million a year earlier. The average value per bird, at $2.00, was 10 cents per bird higher than the December 1, 2001 value per bird.

UNITED STATES

The December 1, 2002 inventory of all chickens (excluding commercial broilers) in the United States totaled 438.9 million, down 1 percent from the previous year. Potential layers (layers 20 weeks old and older, plus pullets 13 weeks and older but less than 20 weeks) on hand December 1, 2002 totaled 377 million, down 1 percent from December 1, 2001. Of the 377 million potential layers, 89 percent were 20 weeks old and older.

Egg production during the year ended November 30, 2002 totaled a record high 86.7 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the previous year's total of 85.7 billion. Table egg production, at 73.8 billion eggs, increased 1 percent from 2001. Hatching egg production, at 12.9 billion eggs, decreased slightly. The inventory value of all chickens on December 1, 2002, at $1.05 billion, was down 2 percent from $1.07 billion a year earlier. The average value of $2.38 per bird as of December 1, 2002 was down 4 cents from $2.42 per bird a year earlier.

LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

Number of Operations by Species, Colorado and United States, 2000-2002

Area and Item	Number of Operations 1/		
	2000	2001	2002
	Number		
Colorado:			
All Cattle	15,100	14,600	14,300
Beef Cows	11,400	11,000	10,500
Milk Cows	860	800	780
Sheep	1,900	2,000	1,900
Hogs	500	400	390
United States:			
All Cattle	1,077,560	1,049,910	1,032,670
Beef Cows	830,670	813,650	805,080
Milk Cows	105,170	97,510	91,990
Sheep	66,100	65,120	64,170
Hogs	86,360	80,880	75,350

1/ Any place having one or more head of the species on hand at any time during the year. 2/ Not estimated.

Livestock and Poultry: Inventory by Class, Colorado and United States, 2001-2003

Specie and Class	Colorado				United States			
	January 1			2003 / 2002	January 1			2003 / 2002
	2001	2002	2003		2001	2002	2003	
	1,000 Head			Percent	1,000 Head			Percent
All Cattle and Calves 1/	3,150	3,050	2,650	87	97,277	96,704	96,106	99
All cows & heifers that have calved	930	890	800	90	42,580	42,229	42,099	100
Beef cows and heifers	840	797	702	88	33,397	33,118	32,947	99
Milk cows and heifers	90	93	98	105	9,183	9,112	9,152	100
Heifers 500 pounds and over	915	910	790	87	19,776	19,678	19,601	100
For beef cow replacement	140	120	102	85	5,588	5,561	5,608	101
For milk cow replacement	45	40	38	95	4,057	4,060	4,104	101
Other heifers	730	750	650	87	10,131	10,057	9,890	98
Steers 500 pounds and over	1,000	1,010	870	86	16,441	16,790	16,590	99
Bulls 500 pounds and over	50	45	40	89	2,274	2,244	2,253	100
Steers, heifers, & bulls < 500 lbs.	255	195	150	77	16,206	15,763	15,563	99
Cattle on feed 2/	1,230	1,210	1,040	86	14,201	13,860	12,916	93
All Sheep and lambs	420	370	370	100	6,965	6,685	6,350	95
Breeding sheep and lambs	195	205	185	90	4,967	4,913	4,682	95
Ewes one year old and older	165	170	155	91	4,091	3,980	3,789	95
Rams one year old and older	6	6	6	100	201	200	192	96
Replacement lambs	24	29	24	83	675	734	702	96
Market sheep and lambs	225	165	185	112	1,998	1,772	1,668	94
Sheep	3	1	1	100	77	72	73	100
Lambs	222	164	184	112	1,922	1,700	1,595	94
Under 65 pounds	3	2	2	100	471	436	429	98
65 - 84 pounds	7	5	5	100	359	300	286	95
85 - 104 pounds	37	17	30	176	487	416	398	96
105 pounds and over	175	140	147	105	604	549	482	88
	December 1			02 / 01	December 1			02 / 01
	2000	2001	2002		2000	2001	2002	
	1,000 Head			Percent	1,000 Head			Percent
All Hogs and pigs	840	800	790	99	59,138	59,804	58,943	99
Breeding hogs and pigs	190	175	160	91	6,270	6,209	6,012	97
Market hogs and pigs	650	625	630	101	52,868	53,594	52,931	99
Under 60 pounds	370	350	350	100	19,421	19,908	19,461	98
60 - 119 pounds	80	90	90	100	12,933	12,924	12,919	100
120 - 179 pounds	85	75	80	107	10,846	10,744	10,736	100
180 pounds and over	115	110	110	100	9,669	10,018	9,815	98
All Chickens	4,170	4,210	4,777	113	435,056	441,509	438,948	99
Total layers	3,410	3,557	4,137	116	332,410	338,628	337,213	100
One year old and older	1,440	1,560	1,852	119	153,222	153,357	153,032	100
Less than one year	1,970	1,997	2,285	114	179,188	185,271	184,181	99
Pullets	601	598	568	95	94,558	94,755	93,385	99
13 to 20 weeks of age	206	142	156	110	38,395	42,807	39,679	93
Less than 13 weeks of age	395	456	412	90	56,163	51,948	53,706	103
Other chickens	159	55	72	131	8,088	8,126	8,350	103

1/ U. S. total may not add due to rounding. 2/ Included in all cattle.

Calf, Lamb, and Pig Crops, Colorado and United States, 2000-2002

Specie	Colorado				United States			
	2000	2001	2002	02 / 01	2000	2001	2002	02 / 01
	1,000 Head			Percent	1,000 Head			Percent
Calf Crop, annual	880	840	820	98	38,631	38,280	38,193	100
Lamb Crop, annual	200	190	200	105	4,622	4,495	4,360	97
Sows Farrowed, annual 1/	350	316	304	96	11,410	11,385	11,429	100
December- May	2/	2/	2/	...	5,683	5,619	5,779	103
June - November	2/	2/	2/	...	5,727	5,767	5,650	98
Pig Crop, annual	2,957	2,667	2,573	96	100,748	100,503	100,758	100
December - May	2/	2/	2/	...	50,087	49,472	50,752	103
June - November	2/	2/	2/	...	50,660	50,031	50,006	100

1/ U.S. total may not add due to rounding. 2/ Discontinued.